

March 18, 2003

TO: Members of the MAG Regional Council

FROM: Mayor Wendy Feldman-Kerr, Queen Creek, Chair

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Meeting - 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

MAG Office, Suite 200 - Saguaro Room

302 North 1st Avenue, Phoenix

Dinner - 6:30 p.m.

MAG Office, Suite 200

The next Regional Council meeting will be held at the MAG offices at the time and place noted above. Members of the Regional Council may attend either in person, by videoconference or by telephone conference call. Members who wish to remove any items from the Consent Agenda are requested to contact the MAG office. MAG will host a dinner/reception for the Regional Council members following the meeting in the MAG Cholla Room on the 2nd floor. Supporting information is enclosed for your review.

Please park in the garage under the Compass Bank Building. Parking places will be reserved for Regional Council members on the first and second levels of the garage. Bring your ticket to the meeting, parking will be validated. For those using transit, the Regional Public Transportation Authority will provide transit tickets for your trip. For those using bicycles, please lock your bicycle in the bike rack in the garage.

Pursuant to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), MAG does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admissions to or participation in its public meetings. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Valerie Day at the MAG office. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

If you have any questions, please call the MAG office.

**MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL
TENTATIVE AGENDA
March 26, 2003**

	<u>COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED</u>
1. <u>Call to Order</u>	
2. <u>Pledge of Allegiance</u>	
3. <u>Call to the Audience</u> An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the Regional Council for items that are not included on the agenda. Citizens will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes will be provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Regional Council requests an exception to this limit.	3. For information.
4. <u>Executive Director's Report</u> The MAG Executive Director will provide a report to the Regional Council on activities of general interest.	4. For information and discussion.
5. <u>Approval of Consent Agenda</u> Council members may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda. Prior to action on the consent agenda, members of the audience will be provided an opportunity to comment on consent items that are being presented for action. Consent items are marked with an asterisk.	5. Approve the Consent Agenda.

ITEMS PROPOSED FOR CONSENT*

MINUTES

*5A. <u>Approval of February 26, 2003 Meeting Minutes</u>	5A. Review and approve February 26, 2003 meeting minutes.
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AIR QUALITY ITEM

*5B. <u>Conformity Consultation</u>	5B. For consultation.
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The proposed amendment to the FY 2003-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) includes a request from the Arizona Department of Transportation to add a new project in FY 2003 that will result in the restriping of Interstate-10 between 7th Street and 7th Avenue. The results of the regional emissions analysis indicate that the inclusion of the project in the TIP and Long Range Transportation Plan 2002 Update meet the transportation conformity requirements for carbon monoxide, ozone, and particulate matter. In addition, the cities of Avondale, Chandler and Phoenix have requested changes to dirt road paving projects; the City of Phoenix has requested a change to a bicycle bridge project; and the City of Mesa has requested a change to an Intelligent Transportation System project. Also, the funding for seven ADOT projects on Loop 202 Red Mountain Freeway and Santan Freeway are being revised to "advance construct" roadway for repayment with Grant Anticipation Notes. Please refer to the enclosed material.

TRANSPORTATION ITEMS

*5C. Proposed Amendment to the FY 2003-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program for Highway Projects

MAG has received a request from the Arizona Department of Transportation to add a new project in FY 2003 that will result in the re-striping of Interstate-10 between 7th Street and 7th Avenue. On January 30, 2003, the Transportation Review Committee (TRC) recommended approval of this amendment.

In addition, the Cities of Avondale, Chandler and Phoenix have requested changes to dirt road paving projects; the City of Phoenix has requested a change to a bicycle bridge project; and the City of Mesa has requested a change to an ITS project.

Further, ADOT has notified MAG of the need to change the potential funding source for seven regional freeway system projects on the Red Mountain and Santan Freeways in FYs 2003 and 2004. Currently, the funding source is defined as

5C. Approval of the proposed amendment to the FY 2003-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program as shown on the attached Tables One and Two.

RARF/15% funding. However, the projects are being advance constructed for federal purposes and will be repaid by Grant Anticipation Note (GAN) funding in future years. On March 12, 2003, the Management Committee recommended approval of the amendment. This item is on the March 19 Transportation Policy Committee agenda. An update will be provided on action taken by the Committee. Please refer to the enclosed material.

*5D. Recommendations to Arizona Department of Transportation for the FTA Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Transportation Program (EPDT)

On February 24, 2003, the MAG FTA Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Transportation Ad Hoc Committee ranked applications for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 funding. These funds provide capital assistance to agencies and public bodies that provide transportation services for people who are elderly and for people who have a disability. The ranking provided by MAG is considered by ADOT in determining which applicants are to be awarded. Please refer to the enclosed material.

*5E. Consultant Selection for the MAG ITS/Traffic Engineering On-Call Services Request for Qualifications

The 2003 MAG Unified Planning Work Program includes four project areas related to ITS: Regional Smart Corridors, ITS Training, ITS Evaluation and ITS On-Call. These project areas were subdivided into six specific areas of technical expertise, which required consultant services to reach regional ITS objectives. It is anticipated that approximately 20 projects in the six areas will be launched over the next two years. A request for qualifications was advertised on November 27, 2002, and 16 consulting teams submitted proposals. A multi jurisdictional selection panel evaluated the proposals and reached a consensus to recommend selecting a number of qualified consultant teams in each of the six areas of expertise. The Management Committee recommended the selected list of consultants. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5D. Approve forwarding the priority listing of applicants for FTA Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Transportation Program to the Arizona Department of Transportation.

5E. Approve the selected list of consultants for the ITS/TE on-call services, for amounts not to exceed the following: (1) ITS Planning \$50,000; (2) ITS Outreach \$50,000; (3) ITS Training \$50,000; (4) ITS Evaluation \$ 150,000; (5) Traffic Signal Operations \$ 300,000; (6) Data Collections Systems \$100,000.

*5F. FY 2003 MAG Mid-Phase Public Input Opportunity

During the mid-phase public input opportunity, MAG co-sponsored several events from the end of January 2003 through March 6, 2003 in cooperation with the Arizona Department of Transportation, Valley Metro/Regional Public Transportation Authority, and Valley Metro Rail. Opportunities included a freeway opening, a "MAG at the Mall" event and a Joint Agency Open House and Public Hearing. Additional opportunities included small group presentations, Black History Month events in Phoenix and Peoria, participation in several Hispanic community events such as the Latino Institute, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and the 8th Annual Seminar in Spanish and Business Expo event. The FY 2003 Mid-Phase Input Opportunity Report contains all of the information gathered at these meetings and events, as well as comments received at Management Committee and Regional Council meetings. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5F. Information and discussion.

GENERAL ITEM

*5G. Amendment of Contract with Planning Technologies for Model Enhancements

The FY 2003 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, approved by the Regional Council in May 2002, includes a work element to enhance the Subarea Allocation model that MAG uses for the preparation of socioeconomic projections. This custom model was developed for MAG by Planning Technologies. The enhancements to the model are needed to improve the small-area allocation routines for non-basic employment and to modify routines to incorporate database updates in preparation for the next round of socioeconomic projections. An amendment is requested to increase the contract with Planning Technologies by \$30,000 from \$50,000 to \$80,000 to cover these model enhancements. The Management Committee recommended approval. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5G. Approve increasing the contract with Planning Technologies by \$30,000 from \$50,000 to \$80,000 for socioeconomic model enhancements.

ITEMS PROPOSED TO BE HEARD**TRANSPORTATION ITEM**6. Transportation Policy Committee Update

An update on recent activities of the Transportation Policy Committee will be provided.

6. Information and discussion.

7. Transportation Outreach to MAG Member Agencies

The Transportation Policy Committee is working on developing the plan that will be presented to the voters for the extension of the one-half cent sales tax for transportation. As part of this effort, an outreach strategy was developed for working with the business community. This outreach strategy is being extended to the MAG member agencies to assist in informing their residents regarding the MAG transportation planning efforts. Examples of materials that can be provided to the member agencies are newsletter inserts, a video to play on cable programs and a media kit. A website is also being developed, letskeepmoving.com, that can be linked to member agency websites. Please refer to the enclosed material.

7. Information and discussion.

AIR QUALITY ITEM8. Air Quality Update

The Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest filed a lawsuit challenging the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approval of the Revised MAG 1999 Serious Area Particulate Plan for PM-10 for the Maricopa County Nonattainment Area. On January 17, 2003, the Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest submitted a second brief to refute the EPA arguments in defense of the plan. Please refer to the enclosed material.

8. Information and discussion.

GENERAL ITEMS9. Community Emergency Notification System Update

9. Information and discussion.

In January 2003, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality awarded a \$2.5 million contract to the Maricopa Association of Governments and Qwest Communications to jointly develop and operate a community emergency notification system for Maricopa County. The system will rapidly notify those living or working near the scene of an emergency in Maricopa County by telephone and provide them with information and any required emergency instructions in English or Spanish. An update will be provided on the next steps to implement the system. Please refer to the enclosed material.

10. Discussion of the Draft FY 2004 Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget and Expenditures and Projects in the MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget

As part of our new budget process, staff is implementing an incremental review of key components of the budget and work program, leading to approval of the budget and work program in May 2003. For the March meeting, staff is providing the draft FY 2004 Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget. This information is considered draft and subject to change. To further assist our member agencies, we are producing a summary budget document, called "MAG Programs in Brief." The purpose of this document is to provide an easy snapshot of the MAG budget. Please refer to the enclosed material.

11. Legislative Update

Staff will provide a legislative report on HB 2288 regarding the Regional Transportation District and HB 2292 regarding the half cent sales tax.

12. Comments from the Council

An opportunity will be provided for Regional Council members to present a brief summary of current events. The Regional Council is not allowed to propose, discuss, deliberate or take action at the meeting on any matter in the summary, unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action.

10. Information and discussion.

11. Information, discussion and possible action.

12. Information.